

# Weather leads to postponement of meeting on LBI easements

By TRISTAN SCHWEIGER Staff Writer, (609) 978-2015

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— A meeting between Long Beach Island oceanfront property owners and an attorney to discuss strategies for fighting beach access easements that was scheduled for Sunday afternoon was postponed due to the winter storm.

June Logan, an oceanfront homeowner in the Brant Beach section of Long Beach Township, said the meeting with lawyer Kenneth Porro will now take place 2 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Holiday Inn on Route 72 in Stafford Township.

Logan and her husband, Mike, originally contacted Porro and arranged the meeting.

The Logans, like many oceanfront property owners on Long Beach Island, are concerned about easements being required by the state and federal government to gain access for work related to the island's massive beach replenishment project.

Officials have argued the project is vital to protecting the island, but many residents have expressed concerns over the access easements and over the state Department of Environmental Protection's requirements of public access points every quarter mile and the construction of numerous public parking lots with restroom facilities.

The meeting with Porro is to discuss ways of either getting state and federal authorities to change their easement requirements or possibly abandon the project as planned, according to the Logans.

The project is supposed to encompass most of Long Beach Island's 18-mile shoreline, from the Loveladies' section of Long Beach Township in the north to the entrance of the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge's Holgate Unit in the south.

In November, about 800 easement agreements were mailed to oceanfront owners in the five municipalities involved in the project. The majority are Long Beach Township property owners.